Revival of 114 sick NTC Mills

1797. SHRI K.M. SAIFULLAH: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to revive 114 sick NTC Mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the amount to be spent therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) (a) to (c) The decision regarding revival or closure of mills in the 8 sick subsidiaries of NTC would be taken by BIFR while finalising the rehabilitation schemes for these subsidiaries. BIFR circulated Draft Rehabilitation Schemes, which envisage revival of 44 viable Mills and closure of 60 unviable mills through a rehabilitation plan costing Rs. 2993 crores to be financed largely out the sale of surplus lands and assets. Government have given in principle consent to the DRSs. Final decision in this regard is to be taken by BIFR after considering objection / suggestions from all concerned. BIFR has fixed hearings for finalisation of the Schemes for the 8 subsidiaries on different dates in February 2002.

Fabric imported from China

1798. SHRIMATI VANGA GEETHA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian Textile industry is facing stiff competition from the fabric imported from China;

(b) if so, the details of measures taken by the Government to provide level playing ground to the domestic industry; and

(c) the import of texiles from China and other countries in the last three years; country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR): (a) and (b) Though the import of fabrics from China have shown an increase, the total quantity imported from China is not significant. The import of fabrics, yarns from China during the year 2000-2001 amounted to US$ 68.1 million which is less than even 0.05% of our domestic fabric consumption.

Government have also been taking several steps to strengthen and provide a level playing field to the textile and clothing industry. Some of the important initiatives are:

(i) The Government has de-reserved the woven segment of readymade garment from the SSI sector.

(ii) A provision of Rs. 10 crores has been earmarked in the B.E. 2001-02 for creating clusters of excellence, *i.e.* apparel parks for production and export of garments. Besides, a provision of Rs. 15 crores has also been made in B.E. 2001-02 for secheme for improvement of infrastructure facilities at major textile production centres.

(iii) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUFS) has been made operational from 1-4- 1999 to facilitate the modernisation and upgradation of this sector so that it can become more competitive in international trade. Inter Ministerial Committee to resolve the issues pertaining to assistance under TUFS has been constituted.

(iv) Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50 per cent.

(v) Technology Mission for Cotton has been launched for initiating focussed steps for boosting production, productivity and quality of cotton for manufacture and export of competitive downstream textile products.

(vi) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile indusry respecially apparel in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

(vii) The import of a large number of garment machinery has been allowed under concessional custom duty of 5 per cent.

(viii) With a view to encouraging backward integration, the custom duty on shuttleless looms has been brought to 5 per cent.

(ix) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100 per cent through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.

(x) To prepare and sensitise our textile and garment industry to conform to the ecological requirements of improving countries by providing facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories.

(xi) The National Textile Policy 2000 (NTxP-2000) has been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.

(xii) DEPB rates for certain textile products have been rationalised.

(xiii) A programme has been announced to induct 50,000 shuttleless looms and to modernise 2.5 lakh powerlooms in the decentralised sector by 2004.

(xiv) The following relaxations under the Quota Policy have been recently announced.

- Large additional quantities have been opened for most of the categories under the FCFS/RGE system of the Quota Policies with a view to providing quotas to the garment and textile exporters on a continuos basis.

- In order to reduce transaction costs and time of the exporters, EMD/ BG amounts have reduced for certain categories and the date for utilising quotas have been extended. Further, the L/C condition under the FCFS system has also been waived for all such categories which have quantities left over for the rest of the year.

(c) The value of import of textiles from China and other countries in the last three years are given below:

(US$ Million)

	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01
Textile imports from all Countries of which:	839.8	1161.0	1213.2
Share of China	103.7	167.3	195.5

SOURCE: DGCI & S, Kolkata